

Praise for Jim Rex's Public School Choice Plan

"We have the opportunity in South Carolina to be visionary on the issue of public school choice. I join with Jim Rex in passionately supporting public school choice, and urge parents around the state to lend their voices to this cause. Let's make South Carolina a leader in innovative public education."

- Congressman Jim Clyburn (D-SC-6)

"I am confident that South Carolinians will support a process that creates more opportunities for students and families. This bill does that. It establishes a framework for making consumer-driven improvements in our public schools, and I believe the General Assembly will endorse it."

- Representative Ted Pitts (R-Lexington)

"Parents deserve to have as many public school choices as possible to match the interests and individual learning styles of their child. Jim Rex's plan for public school choice encourages school districts to offer a menu of options from which parents and students can choose. Many school districts are already engaged in offering various choices such as magnet schools in specific academic courses, single-gender schools, year-round schools, and Montessori schools. Under State Superintendent Rex's plan all districts will expand the choices available to parents and students making our public school system stronger and more diverse."

- Inez Tenenbaum
State Superintendent of Education, 1999-2007

"Such forward thinking in fostering educational choice and innovation should help our state's public-school system bolt ahead."

- *Charleston Post & Courier*
December 9, 2007

"Rex's school choice initiatives are promising. They offer the hope of providing more educational opportunity to children stuck in struggling schools."

- *Greenville News*
December 11, 2007

"Jim Rex is trying once again to kick-start the innovation process, with legislation to require every school district in the state to offer at least one new curriculum option at the elementary, the middle and the high school level within two years ... No one who truly cares about the education S.C. children receive should object to that."

- *The State*
December 20, 2007

“School choice encourages parental involvement, a crucial asset for the long-term mission of improving our state's education system ... the clear public yearning for more and better educational options re-confirms that school choice is an idea whose time has come.”

- Charleston *Post & Courier*
January 22, 2008

"If we want the choice to be public education, we need to allow some options within public education for them."

- Randall Gary
Principal, Dent Middle School
Richland School District Two

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